

themselves outside of the military, plus the sudden loss of their partner in childrearing. They and their children should not be forgotten after the furled flag is handed to them at a military funeral. We deservedly call their husbands heroes for the sacrifice they made for our Nation, but their families are left to be heroes each and every lonely day thereafter. They need and merit the support and comfort from all of us, on Mother's Day and every day.

Children are sometimes, and rightly, referred to as our greatest national treasure. They are our future, the great hope for the continued success and enduring values of our Nation. But if that statement is true, then it is also true that good mothers are our Nation's greatest national resource. Without mothers dedicated every day to this monumental task, our future would be bleak indeed. Though the Senate will not be in session next week, I am proud to call attention to the coming of Mother's Day. I hope that others will join me in applauding the noble calling of motherhood, and in recognizing the hard work and love that mothers demonstrate day after day.

I would like to close with a poem by Strickland Gillilan, called "The Reading Mother," as it speaks to the simple, lasting gifts that mothers give their children.

#### THE READING MOTHER

I had a Mother who read to me  
Sagas of pirates who scoured the sea,  
Cutlasses clenched in their yellow teeth,  
"Blackbirds" stowed in the hold beneath.

I had a Mother who read me lays  
Of ancient and gallant and golden days;  
Stories of Marmion and Ivanhoe,  
Which every boy has a right to know.

I had a Mother who read me tales  
Of Gelert the hound from the hills of Wales,  
True to his trust till his tragic death,  
Faithfulness blent with his final breath.

I had a Mother who read me the things  
That wholesome life to the boy heart  
brings—

Stories that stir with an upward touch,  
Oh, that each mother of boys were such!

You may have tangible wealth untold;  
Caskets of jewels and coffers of gold.  
Richer than I you can never be—  
I had a Mother who read to me.

#### MR. GEORGE FUMICH, AN OUTSTANDING WEST VIRGINIAN

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I want to take a few minutes to say goodbye to a remarkable friend, and an outstanding West Virginian, Mr. George Fumich, who passed away last week.

George Fumich was born in Pennsylvania, but he grew up in Morgantown, WV, and graduated from the West Virginia School of Law. Like so many who come to our State from elsewhere, he developed a passion for West Virginia that lasted a lifetime.

As an officer in the United States Army during World War II, he served in the Italian campaign. His division was the first to move into Rome and was instrumental in the liberation of that

magnificent city from Nazi occupation. He was later captured by the Germans in Northern Italy, but Italian partisans liberated him from his Nazi captors.

For his distinguished military service, George Fumich was awarded two Bronze Stars, a Silver Star, the European African Middle Eastern Service Medal, a POW medal, and as Presidential Unit Citation.

After the war, Mr. Fumich became corporate counsel for the Christopher Coal Company, and then began a successful political career. His political accomplishments included being elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates and serving as Senator John F. Kennedy's campaign manager for northern West Virginia during the historic 1960 West Virginia Democratic primary.

After Kennedy's election, Mr. Fumich began a successful career with the Federal Government. He served as Director of the Office of Mineral Exploration at the Department of Interior, as the first Director of the Office of Coal Research at the Interior Department, and from 1975 to 1977, he was the Director of Fossil Energy at the Energy Research and Development Administration. In 1977, he was appointed Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy at the U.S. Department of Energy.

After leaving the Federal Government, he was appointed Dean of the College of Mineral and Energy Resources, and then served as president of George Fumich Associates, an energy consulting firm.

His interest in coal, his love of West Virginia, and his devotion to West Virginia University all merged. Over the years, it has been rare to attend any event at which the coal, the State, and the university converge, without seeing George Fumich. He was an enthusiastic booster of anything he set about to promote, yet he had a gentle way about him that earned the trust and respect of others.

I will miss seeing George making the rounds at coal events here in Washington. His was a remarkable career for a remarkable man. This kind, brave and honorable man had been a military officer, a politician, a POW, a dean, an administrator, an attorney, a politician, and a Federal official. But above all else, he was a loving and caring father and husband who will be deeply missed by his multitude of friends, and his wonderful family, of which he was so proud.

West Virginia University alumni have lost an energetic supporter for all things WVU. The people of Clarksburg and Morgantown have lost a good neighbor. The State of West Virginia has lost an outstanding citizen. I have lost a dear friend.

My wife Erma and I extend our deepest heartfelt condolences to his wife of 46 years, Marie Fumich, and their children and grandchildren.

#### COMMEMORATING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise to honor the memory of the victims of the Armenian genocide.

This week marks the 90th anniversary of the beginning of the genocide that ultimately took the lives of one-and-a-half million Armenian men, women and children. On April 24, 1915, 200 Armenian religious, intellectual and political leaders in Constantinople were arrested by the Government of the Ottoman Empire and murdered. It was the beginning of the first genocide of the 20th century, and it continued until 1923. It was a vicious, organized crime against humanity that included murder, deportation, torture and slave labor.

The Armenian genocide was followed by a concerted effort to destroy any record of the Armenians in Asia Minor, including the destruction of religious and cultural monuments, and the changing of place names. I am saddened that there are those who would prefer to forget the Armenian genocide. To ignore it is to desecrate the memory of those who lost their lives. And such denial sends the message that genocide will be tolerated by the world.

To deny the genocide of the Armenians, or any atrocity of this scale, is to forsake the value we place on human life and the principles of liberty upon which this country is based. Those who turn a deaf ear to the Armenian genocide, knowingly or unknowingly, abet the future of genocide by failing to raise public consciousness about this tragic reality.

As we remember those whose lives were brutally taken during the Armenian genocide, we also pay tribute to the survivors, the living testimony of this historic crime, and to their families, many of whom are now Armenian-Americans. We must assure them that we, as the leaders of the democratic world, will not forget this tragedy, but rather gain the wisdom and knowledge necessary to ensure that we can prevent its repetition.

Recognizing the Armenian genocide takes on added importance in the face of the genocide occurring right now in the Darfur region of Sudan. As we pause to reflect upon this grievous example of man's inhumanity to man, let us honor the victims of the Armenian genocide and all crimes against humanity by not only acknowledging their suffering, but by acting to halt similar atrocities that are occurring now before our very eyes.

#### HONORING QUINCY, IL, MAYOR CHARLES W. SCHOLZ

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to tell you about a friend of mine.

Chuck Scholz has three great loves in this world: his family, his faith and his community, Quincy, Illinois. On May 2,

after 12 years as Quincy's mayor, Chuck Scholz is stepping down.

It was clear from his earliest days as mayor that Chuck Scholz was a leader. Days after he was sworn in, the Great Mississippi River Flood of 1993 deluged Quincy and many other towns up and down the Mississippi. Even when the flood waters made the bridges connecting Quincy to West Quincy, MO, impassable—leaving the region isolated—Chuck Scholz never panicked. He led a relief effort that brought together Federal, State, and local resources. After the flood waters receded, he worked with communities in three States to lay the foundation for cooperative economic development efforts that continue to this day. He turned destruction and despair into focused determination. His influence on Quincy is so positive and so pervasive that today, many of us cannot think of Quincy or western Illinois without thinking of Chuck Scholz.

Chuck is a compassionate public servant and a talented lawyer. He is also an avid Quincy historian. In 1994, he was able to relive an important chapter in Quincy's history when he welcomed President Abraham Lincoln to the city. Actually, it was a very convincing actor who was playing Lincoln in a re-creation of the famous 1860 Lincoln-Douglas Presidential debates in Quincy. The debate was covered live on C-SPAN.

Mayor Scholz also welcomed a living President to Quincy. Hours after President Bill Clinton delivered his final State of the Union Address in 2000, Air Force One touched down at Quincy's Baldwin Field, and President Clinton delivered a speech in Washington Park. That visit and so many other remarkable events—would not have happened without Mayor Scholz's leadership.

The Scholz administration leaves an impressive list of accomplishments, from lowering property taxes to improving city services and enhancing public safety. Working hard and in a bipartisan manner, Chuck Scholz has made the "Gem City" shine even brighter. Quincy is a more prosperous, more vibrant, more beautiful, and more hopeful place than when he first became mayor.

Chuck Scholz is proud of the sister city bonds he helped forge between Quincy and the cities of Hereford, Germany, and Jiaying, China. He has hosted Presidents, bishops, Supreme Court Justices, and dignitaries from many nations. But his favorite conversations have always been with Quincyans. He loves chatting with local grade school students and rewarding them for good grades with one of his famous red, white, and blue bookmarks.

Retiring as mayor will allow Chuck to spend more time with his wife Becky and his sons Charles and Jake. He will rediscover the law and maybe even spend a bit more time on the golf course or conducting the Quincy Park Band. But I know his service to his hometown will never stop.

As Chuck Scholz prepares to begin this next chapter in his life, I wish him well and I join many others in thanking him for 12 years of remarkable service to his community.

### HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SERGEANT ROCKY PAYNE

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, it is with heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life of SGT Rocky Payne, a soldier in the Army's 497th Transportation Group, who bravely gave his life in service to his country. Sergeant Rocky Payne, a native of Howell, UT, was killed on March 16, 2005, in an explosion created by a roadside bomb in the city of Baghdad. Sergeant Payne is a true hero who died defending his Nation and bringing freedom to an oppressed people.

Sergeant Payne's dream of being a soldier was fulfilled when he joined the Marines at the age of 20, serving 4 years. Shortly after the end of his enlistment with the Marines he joined the Army and was again sent to Iraq, this time as a gunner protecting the supply convoys that make our operations in Iraq possible. In honor of his dedication and service he was posthumously advanced to the rank of sergeant.

I have been told that as a young man SGT Payne exhibited an unusual ability to work with his hands. Old bicycles and electronics found new life under his determined resourcefulness. He restored an old rusty truck which hadn't run in years to working condition in only 2 days. Possessing the ability to play piano by ear, SGT Payne apparently could reconstruct a tune he had heard only once and play it on the piano. But it was when his hands were placed in the service of others that they did the most good. "He was a good, good person," his brother is reported as saying. "One of the kindest people you would ever come across." As a soldier SGT Payne fought bravely to ensure that the people of Iraq would one day enjoy freedom from oppression. "He loved serving," said his father in one newspaper story. "He honestly felt like he was helping the Iraqi people."

Sergeant Payne served his country with courage and honor and his loss is one that our entire country will share forever.

### FREEDOM

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, this past weekend millions of Jews around the world celebrated the beginning of the Passover holiday. Gathered at Seder tables with family and friends, they commemorated the Israelites' exodus from Egypt almost 4,000 years ago.

Jewish law dictates, however, that the Jewish people must do more on Passover than merely remember their ancestors' time in bondage. They must strive to reenact the experience.

Using matzah and bitter herbs, the Seder is an endeavor to recreate the past. To literally taste the bitterness of slavery and the sweetness of freedom.

It is also an opportunity to sharpen awareness of an alarming yet oft-overlooked truth: that millions of men, women and children around the world are still enslaved and have yet to know freedom.

Ultimately the Passover Seder is a modern call to action. It reminds that until all people know the joy of freedom, none of us is truly free.

Many Jews use the Seder not only to celebrate the value of freedom, but to call attention to regions of the world where the spirit of slavery lives on in places like Darfur, Sudan.

For over 2 years now, the Darfur people have been terrorized by violence. Millions have been oppressed by threats of death and destruction. Meanwhile, untold numbers of refugees have fled across the scorched earth, seeking refuge from their taskmasters.

The genocide that rages on in Darfur is a modern derivative of slavery. With the support of the Khartoum Government, Janjaweed militia groups commit mass looting, raping and violence inspired by ethnic hatred.

A recent analysis by the coalition for International Justice indicates that nearly 400,000 civilians have died since the conflict began 2 years ago. Over 140,000 have been killed by Sudanese Government forces. And an estimated 250,000 Darfur civilians have perished from disease and starvation stemming from displacement.

Recently, there has also been a disturbing trend of intimidation directed at aid workers in the region. The Red Cross reports that attacks on aid convoys in Darfur have increased in recent weeks. And last month, a USAID worker was intentionally shot point blank in an attempt to thwart humanitarian efforts and spread fear and intimidation.

Having personally visited the refugee camps on the Chad-Sudan border and met with survivors, I know that millions of our brothers and sisters are still crushed under the yoke of slavery and fear. Millions of them still do not know what it means to be free.

Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel recently commented that "All are entitled to live with dignity and hope. All are entitled to live without fear and pain. Not to assist Sudan's victims today would for me be unworthy of what I have learned from my teachers, my ancestors and my friends, namely that God alone is alone: His creatures must not be."

We must reject this form of slavery by oppression. We must stop the killings. The death toll will only rise without immediate, convincing and unified intervention by the international community.

It is our obligation as free people to bring hope and banish repression.

And it is my belief that we should use the message shared by the Passover